

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 11720

USMTN

USEEC

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR AMBASSADORS STRAUSS AND WOLFF
FROM AMBASSADOR MCDONALD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD MTN EC
SUBJECT: US/EC MEETING WITH GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL

1. ON DECEMBER 7 AMBASSADOR MCDONALD AND EC HEAD OF
DELEGATION PAUL LUYTEN MET WITH DG LONG AND HIS ASSOCIATES
TO DISCUSS HOW THE GATT SECRETARIAT CAN BE HELPFUL IN
CIRCULATING INFORMALLY A SERIES OF WORKING HYPOTHESES
PAPERS BEING DEVELOPED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECEMBER 15
AND JANUARY 15 DEADLINES.

2. LONG SAID OUR REQUEST WAS GOOD NEWS SINCE HE WAS
PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE INFORMAL SESSIONS WERE ADVANCING
THIS RAPIDLY BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE EC. HE INDICATED
HIS WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WHILE STILL PONDERING THE
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BEST TACTICS ON HOW TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK EFFECTIVELY
WITH LOW RISK. HE WILL BE CONSIDERING SEVERAL OPTIONS AND
WILL BE READY TO PREPARE A FINAL PLAN IN MEETING WITH
MCDONALD AND DENMAN ON DECEMBER 14.

3. THIS PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND THE NOTION
OF DEVELOPING A COVER LETTER FROM THE DG TO ALL PARTICI-

PATING PARTIES, INDICATING ITS DESIRE TO PLACE ON THE TABLE A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF MATERIAL HELPFUL IN DESCRIBING THE SCOPE OF THE MTN SO THAT ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS CAN BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15. THE PAPERS TO BE DISTRIBUTED WOULD PROBABLY FOLLOW SEVERAL GRADATIONS OF AUTHENTICITY, E.G., (1) THOSE RESULTING FROM SPECIFIC GROUP OR SUBGROUP MEETINGS (E.G., DAIRY AND MEAT), (2) OTHERS DEVELOPED BY WORKING PARTIES PLURILATERALLY OVER TIME REFLECTING A WIDE CONSENSUS (E.G., STANDARDS AND GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT), AND (3) ANONYMOUS PAPERS SIMPLY COMING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARIAT AS BEING SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO DESERVE CAREFUL SCRUTINY BY PARTICIPANTS ASAP (E.G., TARIFFS AND SAFEGUARDS).

4. LONG IS ALSO CONSIDERING LAUNCHING A SERIES OF INFORMAL MEETINGS BY TOPIC THAT WOULD BE SCHEDULED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15 AS A SIGNAL OF THE BEGINNING OF ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS. THIS MAY ALSO BE AN APPROPRIATE TIME FOR OTHER FORMAL MEETINGS, SUCH AS THE TNC, IF HE FEELS ANY ARE NEEDED ALONG THE WAY. THIS IS PROBABLY THE LEAST HARMFUL TIME FOR SUCH PLENARY SESSIONS AND MIGHT PROVIDE A GOOD PUBLIC FORUM TO MARK A MILESTONE IN THE TOKYO ROUND AND EMPHASIZE THE MOMENTUM AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE UPCOMING STAGES TO PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.

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5. MTN DEL WOULD APPRECIATE ANY OTHER VIEWS FROM WASHINGTON THAT MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN GATT COMMUNICATIONS TACTICS AND PLANS. MCDONALD

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